

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**5 POSITION CONTROL STRATEGY FOR REEL-TO-REEL TAPE DRIVES
 WITH TWO TACHOMETERS**

10 The present invention provides two methods,
apparatus, and computer instructions for controlling tape
movement in a tape drive system. In the first method,
the direction of tape movement is determined with respect
to a file reel and a machine reel. If the direction of
tape movement is toward the file reel, the tape is moved
using machine reel control, and if the direction of tape
15 movement is toward the machine reel, the tape is moved
using file reel control. In the second method, the size
of a file reel, designated as the file radius, and the
size of a machine reel, designated as the machine radius,
are determined. If the machine radius is smaller than
20 the file radius, tape motion is carried out using machine
reel control, and if the file radius is equal to or
smaller than the machine radius, tape motion is carried
out using file reel control.